



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-3873
PHONE: (213) 974-8301 FAX: (213) 626-5427

WENDY L. WATANABE
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

MARIA M. OMS
CHIEF DEPUTY

ASST. AUDITOR-CONTROLLERS

ROBERT A. DAVIS
JOHN NAIMO
JUDI E. THOMAS

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TO: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT – FRED
JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOMES FOR BOYS, INCORPORATED –
COMPTON AND DENKER GROUP HOMES**

We have completed a review of Compton and Denker Group Homes (Group Home or Agency) operated by Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys, Incorporated. Each Group Home contracts with the Departments of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and Probation.

Compton and Denker Group Homes are each six-bed facilities, which provide care for boys ages 11-17 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Compton and Denker were each providing services for five DCFS children.

Both Group Homes are located in the Second District.

Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. In addition, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews with

children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

Summary of Findings

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. However, the Agency needs to address a few deficient areas. For example, both the Compton and Denker Group Homes need to repair, replace, or clean various items throughout the home. Both Group Homes also need to ensure that all members of the treatment team are included in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) and ensure that the NSPs are comprehensive and contain short term goals. In addition, the Compton Group Home needs to encourage and assist children in creating and updating photo albums/life books.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (213) 253-0301.

WLW:MMO:DC:AA:ek

Attachment

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Bonita Dent, Board Chair, Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys
Cecilia Jefferson, Executive Director, Fred Jefferson Memorial Home for Boys
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

**Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys, Inc.
Compton Group Home
Compton, California 90220
License Number: 198200050
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Compton Group Home is located in a residential community. Overall, the exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped. However, there is unfinished window repair work on the home's exterior front wall.

The common quarters are clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment. However, the interior of the Group Home is not well maintained. For example, the doors and doorframes throughout the home have unfinished repair work, the hallway steps are damaged and uneven, and the kitchen counter top is chipped and missing sections.

Overall, children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The beds all have a full complement of linens, and children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate. However, in bedroom one there is a hole in the wall and a mattress and several pillows are worn and sagging.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management:

- a. Complete the unfinished window repair work on the home's exterior front wall.**
- b. Complete the unfinished repair work on the doors and doorframes throughout the home.**

- c. Repair the steps in the hallway.
- d. Repair the kitchen counters.
- e. Repair the hole in the wall in bedroom one.
- f. Replace the worn and sagging mattress and pillows in bedroom one.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement. Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current and include long term goals. However, the NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include short term goals. In addition, the treatment team does not participate in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Recommendations

2. Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management:

- a. Maintain NSPs that are comprehensive and include short term goals.
- b. Include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school, are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and

survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

None.

IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest. The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation

None.

V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents

Comments:

The children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medications. Documentation confirms that the children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

The children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

Recommendation

None.

VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

None.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. However, children are not encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

- 3. Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management encourage and assist in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.**

**Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys, Inc.
Denker Group Home
Los Angeles, California 90047
License Number: 198201547
Rate Classification Level: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment – Observation

Comments:

Denker Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

Overall, the interior of the Group Home is well maintained and the common quarters are neat. The Group Home has adequate furniture and lighting and provides a home-like environment. However, the carpet throughout the home is dirty and the bathroom door has unfinished repair work.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

Recommendations

1. Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management:

- a. Clean the carpet throughout the home.
- b. Complete the unfinished repair work on the bathroom door.

II. Program Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement. Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current and include long term goals. However, the NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include short term goals. In addition, the treatment team does not participate in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

Recommendations

2. Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes for Boys management:

- a. Maintain NSPs that are comprehensive and include short term goals.
- b. Include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the NSPs.

III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

Children are attending school, are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs, and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

Recommendation

None.

IV. Recreation and Activities**Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews****Sample size: Two****Comments:**

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest. The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

Recommendation**None.****V. Psychotropic Medication****Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents****Comments:**

According to the Agency's management, there are currently no children taking psychotropic medications. This information is appropriately documented. Children are also aware of their right to refuse medication.

Recommendation**None.****VI. Personal Rights****Method of assessment – Interviews with children****Sample size: One****Comments:**

The child is informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. The child reports that he feels safe in the Group Home and is provided with appropriate staff supervision. The child expresses satisfaction with the quality of his interactions with staff and reports that the staff treats him with respect and dignity.

The child reports that he is assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. The child is allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. The child attends religious services of his choice.

The child reports that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

The child reports satisfaction with meals and snacks. The child also receives voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

Recommendation

None.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment – Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

Comments:

The Group Home provides appropriate clothing, items of necessity and the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance to children. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. Children are also encouraged and assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Recommendation

None.

**FRED JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOMES FOR BOYS
COMPTON GROUP HOME
COMPTON, CALIFORNIA 90220
LICENSE NUMBER: 198200050
RATE CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

a. window repair

The repair on the window on the exterior wall will be completed by November 15, 2008. The facility manager will be responsible for facilitating the repair and the program manager will ensure the repair is completed as stated and will also be responsible for monitoring future needed repairs. To maintain facility a daily repair log will be implemented to document needed repairs in the facility. The program manager will be responsible for reviewing the log and contacting handyman for repairs in a timely manner.

b. doors and door frames

The doors and door frames will be repaired by November 15, 2008. The facility manager will be responsible for facilitating the repair and the program manager will ensure the repair is completed as stated. To maintain facility a daily repair log will be implemented to document needed repairs in the facility. The program manager will be responsible for reviewing log and contacting handyman for repairs in a timely manner.

c. steps in the hallway

The steps in the hallway will be repaired by November 30, 2008. The facility manager will be responsible for facilitating the repairs and the program manager will ensure the repairs are completed as stated. To maintain facility a daily log for repairs will be implemented to document needed repairs. The program manager will be responsible for reviewing log and contacting handyman for repairs in a timely manner.

d. kitchen counters

The kitchen counters will be repaired by November 30, 2008. The facility manager will be responsible for facilitating the repair and the program manager will ensure the repair is completed as stated. To maintain facility a daily log for repairs will be implemented to document needed repairs. The program manager will be responsible for reviewing log and contacting handyman for repairs in a timely manner.

e. hole in wall

The hole was repaired the day of the audit. To ensure maintenance of the facility a daily log for repairs will be implemented and reviewed by the program manager who will contact handyman for repairs in a timely manner.

f. mattress and pillow

The mattress and pillow was replaced the day after the audit. The facility manager will in the future examine mattresses and pillows on all resident's beds to ensure appropriate bedding on a monthly basis. The program manager will ensure the corrective action remains implemented .

II. Program Services

a. NSP development

The psychologist will ensure that the treatment team will be included in the development and implementation of NSP's. The psychologist will be responsible for scheduling the treatment team . The corrective action was implemented November 10, 2008. The clinical director will monitor to ensure that the corrective action plan is maintained.

b. Maintain NSP's that are comprehensive including short term goals

The psychologist will maintain comprehensive NSP's that also include short term goals. The corrective plan was implemented effective November 10, 2008. The clinical director will ensure this corrective action plan is maintained.

VII. Clothing and Allowance

The Fred Jefferson Memorial Homes For Boys management team will begin to encourage and assist each resident in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books. The program manager will ensure that this is implemented immediately and continue as a vital part of the program. The CEO will monitor and ensure this corrective action plan is continuous in the group home program.

Respectfully Submitted



Cecilia Jefferson-Freeman
CEO

**FRED JEFFERSON MEMORIAL HOMES FOR BOYS, INC.
DENKER GROUP HOME
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90047
LICENSE NUMBER: 198201547
RATE CLASSIFICATION LEVEL: 10**

I. Facility and Environment

a. carpet

The carpet will be cleaned by November 15, 2008. The facility manager will schedule the cleaning of carpet with a reputable company. The program manager will implement a daily log documenting repairs and will be responsible for overseeing the log and having repairs implemented in a timely manner.

b. bathroom door

The bathroom door will be finished by November 30, 2008. The facility manager will contact the handyman for repairs. The program manager will implement a daily log documenting needed repairs of facility and will be responsible for overseeing the log and having repairs done in a timely manner.

II. Program Services

a. NSP development

The psychologist will ensure that the treatment team will be included in the development and implementation of NSP's. The psychologist will be responsible for scheduling the treatment team's meeting. The clinical director will monitor to ensure that the corrective action plan is maintained. It has been implemented effective November 10, 2008.

b. Maintain NSP's that are comprehensive including short term goals

The psychologist will maintain comprehensive NSP's that will also include short term goals. It has been implemented effective November 10, 2008. The clinical director will ensure this corrective action plan is maintained.

Respectfully Submitted,


Cecilia Jefferson Freeman